

Iowa Crops & Weather



USDA – National Agricultural Statistical Service
Iowa Field Office

210 Walnut, Room 833 • Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2195
515-284-4340 • 1-800-772-0825 • FAX 515-284-4342 • nass-ia@nass.usda.gov
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For the week ending August 31, 2008

CROPS BEGINNING TO MATURE

Agricultural Summary: Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies deteriorated again across much of the State, but are still mostly adequate except in the Northwest and Southwest districts. Hay and pasture growth was limited across most of the State. Temperatures remained moderate, preventing significant crop stress, but progress toward maturity is visible.

There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork, compared to 3.5 days last year at this time. Topsoil moisture is rated 10 percent very short, 27 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture is rated 5 percent very short, 20 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

Field Crops Report: Corn at or beyond the milk stage progressed to 93 percent, 2 weeks behind last year and 11 days behind the five-year average. Corn at or beyond the dough stage advanced to 75 percent, 16 percentage points behind last year and 15 percentage points behind the five-year average. Thirty-three percent of the corn has reached the dent stage, less than one-half of last year's 72 percent and just over one-half of the 5-year average of 64 percent. Corn condition is rated 2 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Soybeans setting pods progressed to 95 percent, 2 weeks later than last year and the five-year average. Nine percent of the soybeans are turning color, well behind last year's 26 percent pace and the 5-year average of 23 percent. Soybean condition is rated at 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. The oat harvest is virtually complete. The second cutting of alfalfa is 99 percent complete. The third cutting of alfalfa advanced to 50 percent complete, 1 week behind last year and 2 weeks behind the five-year average. All hay condition is rated

2 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 8 percent excellent.

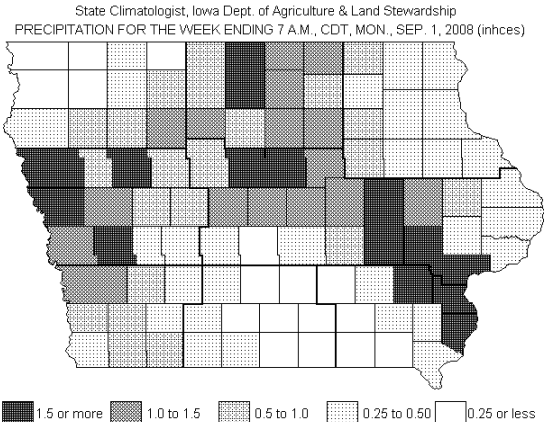
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition is rated 4 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist

The past work week began with cool and dry weather on Monday (25th) and Tuesday (26th). Some much needed rain moved into the northwest one-half of the state on Wednesday (27th) and through much of the remainder of Iowa on Thursday (28th) morning. Warm and humid air made a brief return to the state on Thursday with temperatures climbing to 89 degrees at Red Oak and Shenandoah. Dry weather prevailed over the weekend. A cool and dry air mass pushed into the state on Friday (29th) with a morning low down to 43 degrees at Sibley. Warmer and more humid air gradually built into Iowa over the holiday weekend. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 0.8 degrees below normal. Rain totals varied from none at Albia and Lake Rathbun to 4.17 inches at Holly Springs, just to the southeast of Sioux City. The statewide average precipitation was 0.79 inches or just slightly less than the weekly normal of 0.91 inches. Preliminary data give a statewide average of 2.01 inches or rain for August 2008. This is less than one-half of the normal monthly amount of 4.19 inches and ranks 14th driest August among 136 years of records. A drier summer month has not been recorded in Iowa since August 2003. However, this month averaged more than four degrees cooler than during the near-record dryness of August 2003.

Statewide Crop Conditions as of August 31, 2008					
Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	9	26	48	15
Soybeans	2	8	28	48	14
Hay, all	2	12	38	40	8
Range & Pasture	4	13	33	43	7

PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist



Field Work and Crop Progress as of August 31, 2008													
Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Nor- mal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn in or past milk stage	97	96	94	96	94	95	86	85	91	93	88	99	99
Corn in or past dough stage	84	79	73	82	77	67	64	50	68	75	53	91	90
Corn in or past dent stage	52	24	24	41	36	21	35	19	23	33	13	72	64
Soybeans setting pods	99	99	99	99	96	96	85	86	92	95	89	100	99
Soybean leaves turning color	16	10	18	8	4	5	9	3	8	9	1	26	23
Hay, alfalfa - third crop harvested	79	58	69	68	38	59	35	27	41	50	32	66	79

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of August 31, 2008

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
Days suitable	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	
	6.2	5.6	6.4	5.0	5.4	5.5	6.1	6.4	5.7	5.7	6.2	3.5	
Topsoil moisture	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
	Very short	17	9	6	8	5	3	36	5	0	10	7	0
	Short	26	25	31	37	17	26	36	32	11	27	26	3
	Adequate	56	65	56	52	76	69	27	61	78	60	64	72
	Surplus	1	1	7	3	2	2	1	2	11	3	3	25
Subsoil moisture	Very short	11	6	4	4	1	0	16	1	0	5	2	1
	Short	27	21	24	33	9	7	32	13	12	20	16	4
	Adequate	61	71	67	63	82	89	47	82	85	72	75	70
	Surplus	1	2	5	0	8	4	5	4	3	3	7	25

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office
For the week ending: Sunday, August 31, 2008, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATION	CURRENT WEEK						SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK	
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
	North West District									
Estherville	85	43	66	0	0.16	-0.68	17.64	0.27	110	2
Sioux Center	88	46	69	2	0.12	-0.65	16.35	-0.83	135	9
Spencer	86	44	67	1	0.30	-0.54	15.68	-2.59	123	6
Spirit Lake	81	53	69	3	0.45	-0.39	15.22	-2.07	132	-9
North Central District										
Britt	83	48	66	-3	1.86	1.03	26.58	7.61	116	-9
Humboldt	82	52	65	-3	1.01	0.12	26.83	7.28	109	-15
Mason City	85	44	66	-2	1.21	0.23	30.45	10.42	111	-3
Osage	84	50	66	-2	0.75	-0.30	30.97	10.56	112	-22
North East District										
Decorah	86	46	67	-2	0.49	-0.46	31.63	12.05	118	-7
Dubuque	82	51	68	1	0.33	-0.81	28.94	8.06	124	6
Elkader	86	45	64	-4	0.33	-0.58	36.63	17.08	100	-43
Fayette	85	49	66	-2	0.41	-0.57	35.22	14.67	111	-9
Waterloo	84	49	67	0	0.56	-0.24	33.37	13.02	124	3
West Central District										
Carroll	84	48	67	-1	0.48	-0.36	28.42	7.69	120	-5
Castana	82	51	68	-2	2.14	1.30	23.54	5.29	125	0
Guthrie Center	85	46	66	-4	0.62	-0.36	32.48	12.24	115	-16
Harlan	83	51	68	-2	2.10	1.14	24.07	4.81	127	4
Jefferson	83	51	66	-3	0.62	-0.22	29.40	8.67	115	-10
Logan	85	51	70	0	0.75	-0.09	21.45	2.59	139	2
Rockwell City	82	51	66	-4	0.83	-0.08	26.12	6.43	114	-18
Sac City	83	49	66	-3	0.98	0.07	25.26	5.97	113	-11
Sioux City	86	50	70	1	1.77	1.07	18.97	2.98	141	6
Central District										
Boone	84	51	67	-2	1.13	0.22	38.54	17.65	120	-7
Des Moines	85	56	71	0	0.17	-0.76	33.42	13.93	146	1
Grundy Center	83	49	65	-2	1.13	0.32	35.36	15.23	108	-6
Marshalltown	82	47	66	-2	0.73	-0.31	32.91	11.95	114	-5
Newton	83	52	67	-3	0.81	-0.12	30.30	10.58	121	-13
Perry	85	50	67	-1	0.38	-0.51	31.41	11.52	121	-3
Toledo	82	51	66	-3	0.94	-0.04	35.39	14.18	110	-11
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	80	52	67	-2	1.90	0.95	32.17	12.56	119	-10
Davenport	83	52	68	-3	0.39	-0.52	25.38	5.93	129	-12
Iowa City	82	55	69	-3	2.15	1.17	30.09	8.47	133	-15
Lowden	84	47	65	-4	0.43	-0.62	24.16	2.42	106	-24
Maquoketa	82	50	65	-3	0.36	-0.69	30.71	11.01	104	-17
Muscatine	83	53	67	-4	1.43	0.52	30.27	10.07	121	1
South West District										
Atlantic	87	49	71	3	1.19	0.30	30.80	12.36	147	21
Clarinda	86	48	68	-2	0.62	-0.43	23.65	1.55	126	-10
Glenwood	85	51	68	-3	1.17	0.26	31.07	10.94	127	-16
Red Oak	89	52	70	-1	0.62	-0.42	30.25	8.47	145	-3
Sidney	86	56	70	-2	0.30	-0.68	27.34	6.63	139	-5
South Central District										
Allerton	84	52	67	-3	0.13	-0.89	38.50	17.88	122	17
Beaconsfield	84	55	68	-3	0.32	-0.64	32.84	12.83	126	-9
Chariton	84	49	66	-5	0.38	-0.66	33.78	12.83	110	-25
Indianola	85	50	67	-3	0.13	-0.78	36.55	16.44	123	-10
Leon	85	50	66	-5	0.52	-0.53	27.52	6.59	112	-26
South East District										
Bloomfield	84	54	68	-4	0.06	-1.01	32.99	12.02	127	-19
Burlington	83	54	70	0	1.73	0.81	23.54	4.05	144	1
Ottumwa	83	53	68	-4	0.03	-0.91	31.81	12.39	126	-20
Washington	85	52	67	-5	0.89	0.01	29.80	10.78	121	-3

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Copyright 2008: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.